

REMARKS

Claims 17, 19, 21-24, 29-38 and 65-73 are pending and subject to a restriction requirement dated November 3, 2008.

Claims 17 and 29-30 are amended for syntax as indicated.

The restriction requirement states that the claims have to following species, with one of them being required for election:

Election of Filler (see claims 66-73)

- (a) alginate
- (b) gelatin
- (c) fibrin, fibrinogen
- (d) albumin
- (e) polylactide, polyglycolide
- (f) polycaprolactone
- (g) poly(alpha-hydroxy acid)
- (h) polyethylene glycol
- (i) thixotropic polymers
- (j) thermoreversible polymers

Applicant elects (h) polyethylene glycol.

Claims 17, 19, 21-24, 33-38, and 71 read on the elected species. Grouping of the claims for the restriction requirement is made for procedural purposes and is not a representation as to the substance of what is claimed.

The restriction requirement is traversed on the grounds that the species hyaluronic acid (claim 32) is not listed as a species.

Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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